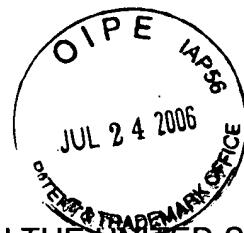


P19894.A13



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takehiko SHIGEFUJI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3724

Appl. No : 09/680,293

Examiner: C. Goodman

Filed : October 6, 2000

Confirmation No.: 1800

For : PUNCHING TOOL PROVIDED WITH TOOL IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM AND PUNCH PRESS PROVIDED WITH A TOOL IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM READER

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 24, 2006, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on June 26, 2006 (June 24, 2006 being a Saturday), and for which a Request for Extension of Time for one month is being filed currently herewith, setting the period for response to expire July 24, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application, in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

P19894.A13

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.